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October 13, 2005

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation  
*IP Enabled Services; E911 Requirements for IP-Enabled Service Providers;*  
*WC Docket Nos. 04-36, 05-196***

Dear Chairman Martin:

This letter is responsive to your recent request for information regarding EarthLink's upcoming launch of consumer Voice over Internet Protocol ("VoIP") service and other IP-enabled services using Covad's new Line-Powered Voice product. Covad's Line-Powered Voice product is designed specifically to provide an affordable IP-enabled phone and high-speed Internet access alternative to the local phone companies. To do so, Line-Powered Voice marries the "last mile" of traditional telephone copper wiring with the advanced features of VoIP by taking advantage of the next-generation Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer ("DSLAM") technology. This technology will enable Covad to offer higher-speed broadband access (*e.g.*, ADSL 2+, G.SHDSL) and new business-class services such as metro Ethernet and bonded T1, in addition to Line-Powered Voice.

Covad and EarthLink will soon begin a joint Line-Powered Voice market trial to give EarthLink the ability to offer its subscribers low-cost IP-enabled phone services along with high-speed Internet access. The initial trial will cover Dallas, TX, San Francisco and San Jose, CA, and Seattle, WA. EarthLink Line-Powered Voice subscribers will enjoy high quality service because their calls will be delivered over Covad's and EarthLink's managed national networks rather than the public Internet. Subscribers will also receive EarthLink's award-winning customer service and Internet tools and services like spamBlocker, VirusBlocker, and Spyware Blocker.

A critical distinguishing feature of Line-Powered Voice is that Covad's next generation DSLAMs provide power to customers' phone lines, and thus the customers' phone equipment, from the DSLAM/central office, just as traditional phone service provides power. Therefore, in the event of a power outage at a customer's premises, IP-enabled phone service will continue to be available. Line-Powered Voice customers will also be able to use their existing phones, wiring, and computer equipment. And, like traditional phone service, Line-Powered Voice IP-enabled voice services support enhanced 911 calling and offer custom calling features.

The Line-Powered Voice product also ensures compliance with the Commission's requirement that interconnected VoIP service providers transmit a call back number and a registered location for each E911 call by November 28, 2005. Specifically, with Line-Powered Voice, E911 is supported because the service is non-nomadic and is associated with the physical location where the loop terminates. Accordingly, a definitive address is gathered at the time of ordering, and E911 calls can be routed to the local PSAP based on that address with call back ("ANI") and location ("ALI") information.

Covad and EarthLink are excited to be able to offer this expanded portfolio of innovative, low-cost, high quality IP-enabled voice and data products to meet the growing communications needs of EarthLink subscribers. Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b), an electronic copy of this notice is being filed in each of the above-referenced proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Susan Jin Davis

Susan Jin Davis  
Vice President, External Affairs and  
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